

Kessler, Ellen

From: Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC [Stephanie.Strength@wdc.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2009 11:12 AM
To: Lilley, Bliss; Collins, Carly
Subject: FW:

-----Original Message-----

From: dorannorton@charter.net [mailto:dorannorton@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2009 5:14 PM
To: Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC
Subject:

Stephanie A. Strength
Environmental Protection Specialist/RD
1400 Independence Ave. SW Room # 2244
Washington, DC 20250-1571

Please oppose forcing my township to pay for the CapX2020 ultra high voltage power line projects, including the La Crosse Project.

L-009-001 | This line will cause environmental harm in scenic corridors and the loss of prime agricultural land.

L-009-002 | You should consider this project with the other CapX2020 power lines which seem to be about bringing Dakota coal power to Wisconsin and Illinois.

L-009-004 | My neighbors are committed to local generation of power and to conservation. I attended a local intergovernmental meeting last night, and a CAPX representative spoke. It sounds like the power companies are boxed into solutions which are 'cheapest' without considering the true cost of these solutions to protected natural resources.

L-009-003 | We can solve local reliability issues locally. We don't need Dakota coal carbon footprints all over Minnesota.

It sounds like some power companies are backing out of this project and so are looking to me to pay for a project I don't want. Please - don't make my neighbors pay for this project through the USDA Rural Utilities Service.

Thanks for considering my request,

Kathleen Doran-Norton
Bridgewater Township board of supervisors

L-009-001

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to the aesthetic quality of the areas surrounding the transmission line as well as agricultural resources will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

L-009-002

Your comment has been noted.

While the CapX2020 projects involve four independent projects being developed in a similar time frame with some of the same of utilities participating, the Purpose and Need for the CapX2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kV Project was developed and proven independently of the other CapX2020 projects. The Alternative Evaluation Study addresses project Purpose and Need and is available at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>, which has been approved by the RUS. Purpose and Need will also be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

L-009-003

Your comment has been noted. Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

L-009-004

Your comment has been noted. Please refer to comment response L-009-003.